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GRANTED

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445 12th Street STV Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary

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Wireline Competition Bureau

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**RE: Domestic Section 214 Application** 

Bush-Tell, Inc. (WC Docket No. 17-322)

Estate of Harry F. Colliver, Jr. (Transferor) and William Douglas DeVore (Transferee) APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The Estate of Harry F. Colliver, Jr. ("Colliver Estate" or "Transferor") and William Douglas DeVore ("Mr. DeVore" or "Transferee") (collectively, the "Applicants") hereby request Special Temporary Authority for Mr. DeVore to continue operating the incumbent local exchange carrier ("ILEC") business of Bush-Tell, Inc. ("Bush-Tell") while the referenced "Application for Transfer of Control of Domestic Blanket Section 214 Authorization" with respect to Bush-Tell is processed and acted upon.

Bush-Tell is an ILEC that serves a single Alaska study area (Study Area Code 613004) containing approximately 560 access lines in ten village exchanges in the Bethel and Yukon-Koyukuk Census Areas of southwestern Alaska.

Harry F. Colliver, the former owner of 100 percent of Bush-Tell's stock, died on November 24, 2015. His Bush-Tell stock was placed in the Colliver Estate, which was administered by Tina Colliver Drudi, Mr. Colliver's great-niece, as Executor. On October 16, 2016, the Colliver Estate assigned Mr. Colliver's 100 percent ownership interest in Bush-Tell to Mr. DeVore, a long-time Bush-Tell consultant and employee, pursuant to the terms of Mr. Colliver's will.

Whereas they sought and received authorization from the Regulatory Commission of Alaska for the transfer to Mr. DeVore, neither the Colliver Estate nor Mr. DeVore nor the Alaskan attorneys representing them realized the need to file: (1) an application or notice with the Commission regarding the involuntary transfer of the ownership of Bush-Tell and its blanket domestic Section 214 authorization to the Colliver Estate at the time of Mr. Colliver's death in November 2015; nor (2) a Section 214 application with the Commission for prior approval of the transfer of 100 percent of Bush-Tell's voting stock (and hence control of its blanket domestic Section 214 authorization) to Mr. DeVore by the Colliver Estate.

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Mr. DeVore and the rest of Bush-Tell management recognize and understand that transactions affecting control of Bush-Tell are subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of this Commission as well as the Alaska Commission. They ask special temporary authority to continue Bush-Tell's ILEC operations while the referenced Domestic Section 214 Application is processed and acted upon. They apologize for previous oversights, noting that the Colliver Estate and Bush-Tell management were concentrating during Mr. Colliver's final days and thereafter upon dealing with his loss and keeping the very small Bush-Tell operations afloat in the harsh climate and difficult economy of frontier Alaska. During this period, there were some mistakes and miscommunications, with the result being too much focus upon the state filing and the advice of local Alaska attorneys who were unfamiliar with federal requirements.

Applicants acknowledge that a grant of this request for Special Temporary Authority will not prejudice any action that the Commission may take on the Application. Applicant further acknowledges that Special Temporary Authority can be revoked by the Commission on its own motion without a hearing, and that the granting of Special Temporary Authority and the underlying Application will not preclude enforcement action.

This Application for Special Temporary Authority, and the previously filed Application for Transfer of Control of Domestic Blanket Section 214 Authorization, are submitted to bring the ownership of Bush-Tell and its blanket domestic Section 214 authorization back into compliance with the Commission's Part 63 rules.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Gerard J. Duffy

Gerard J. Duffy Federal Communications Counsel to Estate of Harry F. Colliver, Jr. and William Douglas DeVore